

Message Text

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TO USMISSION NATO

INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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TAGS: OCON, NATO

SUBJECT: EXPANDED USE OF NAMSA AND F-16 LOGISTIC

-- SUPPORT

REF: USNATO 6852 DTG 121745Z DEC 75

1. REFTEL WAS MOST WELCOME FOR IT INDICATES THAT WE NEED
TO CLARIFY OUR POLICY REGARDING NAMSA PARTICIPATION IN THE
F-16 LOGISTIC SUPPORT PROGRAM.

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2. WE HAVE REVIEWED THE MINUTES OF THE CONSORTIUM'S F-16 LOGISTICS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS SEPTEMBER 24-26, 1975 (BRUSSELS), AND NOVEMBER 11-14, 1975 (THE HAGUE), WHICH INDICATE THAT THE CONSORTIUM IS PROCEEDING WITH NATO RATIONALIZATION/STANDARDIZATION OBJECTIVES CLEARLY IN MIND. FOR EXAMPLE, THE CONSORTIUM HAS AGREED TO MULTINATIONAL CONFIGURATION MANAGEMENT, A MULTINATIONAL PROVISIONING ORGANIZATION, A SINGLE MAINTENANCE DATA COLLECTION SYSTEM, AND STOCKAGE OF INSURANCE AND SLOW MOVING ITEMS TO SUPPORT US AND ALL EUROPEAN PARTICIPATION GOVERNMENTS F-16 FORCES AT A SINGLE CINCUSAFE BASE, PROBABLY IN THE NETHERLANDS. THERE ARE ALSO PLANS FOR USE OF COMMON REPAIR FACILITIES IN THE PARTICIPATING EUROPEAN COUNTRIES BY THE US AND THE EUROPEANS, RELYING PRIMARILY ON THOSE SAME EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES THAT ARE INVOLVED IN THE PRODUCTION OF THE F-16.

3. THE US HAS FULLY SUPPORTED ALL OF THESE COOPERATIVE EFFORTS AND ON THREE OCCASIONS PROPOSED THAT NAMSA BE CONSIDERED TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY LOGISTIC SUPPORT FOR THE F-16. IN EACH INSTANCE, ALL EUROPEAN REPRESENTATIVES OPPOSED THE US SUGGESTION.

4. THE F-16 LOGISTICS SUBCOMMITTEE IS SCHEDULED TO MEET IN WASHINGTON ON FEBRUARY 2, 1976, AND THIS WOULD PROVIDE AN IDEAL FORUM TO HEAR A NAMSA PRESENTATION. HOWEVER, GIVEN PAST EUROPEAN RESPONSES TO US INITIATIVES RE NAMSA, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD PROVE UNPRODUCTIVE TO RAISE THE ISSUE AGAIN WITH THOSE SCHEDULED TO ATTEND THE MEETING. THE U.S. POSITION IS THAT WE FAVOR INVITING NAMSA TO MAKE PRESENTATION DURING FEBRUARY MEETING PROVIDING THAT THE EUROPEANS ARE WILLING TO REOPEN THE ISSUE. IN ORDER TO GIVE THE EUROPEANS AN OPPORTUNITY TO RECONSIDER OR CONFIRM PREVIOUS DECISIONS REGARDING F-16 SUPPORT, WE REQUEST THAT YOU RAISE THE ISSUE WITH NATO REPS OF PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES IN BRUSSELS. MISSION MAY WISH TO CONSIDER ASKING NAMSA TO PROVIDE SOMEONE TO ACCOMPANY THEM IN SUCH DISCUSSIONS.

5. PLEASE ADVISE OF POSITIONS TAKEN BY ALLIES AS A RESULT OF YOUR ACTION.

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